

09/979569 #4/A

JCTO Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 NOV 2001 Pr And H/N  
2/9/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

Applicant : WILSON, Alan A. et al  
Appl. No. : not yet assigned  
Filed : herewith  
Title : Method and Apparatus for Loading a Container with a Product

Grp./A.U. :  
Examiner :

Docket: : PG3707USW

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

After the Title, insert:

--This is a U.S. National Phase filing under 35 USC 371. Priority is claimed from  
PCT/EP00/04499 filed May 18, 2000, which claims priority from Patent Application GB  
9911770.7 filed May 21, 1999 filed in the United Kingdom.--

**In the Claims:**

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the diameter of the closed-off perforation is between 1.5 and 15 mm.

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